



Monday, March 28, 2011

Volume 1, Issue 4

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE INFORMER:

2011 LEGISLATIVE SESSION APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

- Noteworthy – Recent news of the Florida House of Representatives
- 2011 Legislative Session Appropriations Process – New link to Appropriations Budget Documents
- OPI Pulse – A listing of background information released by the Florida House's Office of Public Information
- Did You Know? – Helpful hints about the Florida House website

The **2011 Legislative Session Appropriations Process** takes place this week and next week. For greater ease in finding the many documents and bills related to this process, the House has placed them all in one location:

[2011 Appropriations Documents](#)

You may also visit:

[House Appropriations Committee](#)

NOTEWORTHY

Regulatory Reform Legislation Passes Economic Affairs Committee

The House Economic Affairs Committee passed two bills this week that would affect business and consumer regulation and licensing. The first bill, HB 5005, would repeal licensing and examination requirements and penalties for specific professions and businesses currently regulated by the state. The second bill, HB 5007, would reduce regulatory requirements for professions and businesses and streamline regulatory functions. The bills have moved to the House Appropriations Committee.

To learn more, visit:

[House Economic Affairs Committee](#) [House Appropriations Committee](#)

House Bill 1331, School Choice, Passes House K-20 Innovation Subcommittee

This week a House Subcommittee approved a bill that would allow more students the opportunity to apply for scholarships. The House K-20 Innovation Subcommittee passed House Bill 1331, School Choice, sponsored by Representative Michael Bileca, on Tuesday March 22, 2011. The bill now heads to the House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee.

To learn more, visit:

[K-20 Innovation Subcommittee](#) [PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee](#)

Paycheck Protection Passes House Floor

House Bill 1021, Labor and Employment, passed the House Floor with a vote of 73-40, on Friday, March 25, 2011. HB 1021 proposes to prohibit an automatic withdrawal of funds from a public employees' paycheck for union dues and purposes of political activity. It also requires an annual written authorization from a union member before any individual dues can be spent for political purposes, and prohibits a union from requiring a worker's authorization as a condition of membership in the union. The House hopes the Senate will take up and pass this bill in a similar fashion.

To learn more, visit:

[State Affairs Committee](#)



Informer

NOTEWORTHY (cont'd)

Florida House Passes Two Veto Overrides

The House approved overriding two bills vetoed by Governor Charlie Crist during the 2010 Legislative Session. The first measure, HB 1207, permits the optional establishment of and sets reporting requirements for Affiliated Party Committees. The second measure, HB 7103, prohibits counties from imposing a fee for stormwater management on agricultural land if the operation meets specified requirements.

To learn more, visit:

[Florida House of Representatives](#)

Medicaid Reform Passes House Appropriations Committee

The House Appropriations Committee passed a bill proposing to significantly restructure the state's Medicaid program this week. The proposal, which establishes the Florida Medicaid program as a statewide, integrated managed care program for all covered services, including long-term care, was passed Thursday, March 24, 2011. The proposal consists of two bills, HB 7107, which creates a new part and new sections of law in Chapter 409 of Florida Statutes that will be phased in over a five-year period, and HB 7109, which makes date specific, conforming changes to current law. HB 7109 also authorizes some immediate changes in the Medicaid program to prepare for a transition to managed care.

To learn more, visit:

[House Appropriations Committee](#) [House Health & Human Services Subcommittee](#)
[Florida Agency for Health Care Administration](#) [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#)

OPI Update

OPI has published two background documents on the Veto Overrides:

- [Veto Override Summary HB 1207](#)
- [Veto Override Summary HB 7103](#)

Check back under "[Announcements](#)" for new **Pulse** documents to be published this week.

DID YOU KNOW?

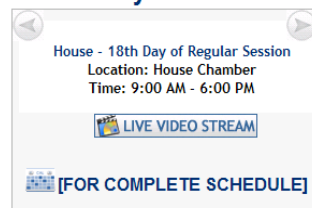
The House is on [Facebook](#).

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The House has a [Flickr](#)
Photostream.

Check out the Calendar box on the House [homepage](#):

House Daily Schedule



The House is on YouTube,
[MyFloridaHouse](#),
& has released the following videos
this week:

[CS/HB 5005 – Deregulation of Progressions and Occupations](#)

[Veto Override – HB 1207 – Affiliated Party Committees](#)

[Veto Override – HB 1703 - Agriculture](#)

[HB 1021 – Paycheck Protection](#)